



William Zeiss

October 8, 1926 - January 7, 2008

William Edwin "Bill" Zeiss, 81, former advertising director for the Tyler newspapers, died late Monday. Services are scheduled for 2 p.m. Thursday at Fairwood United Methodist Church with the Rev. Rick Tate officiating. Burial is scheduled for 1 p.m. Friday at Ryall Cemetery in Jasper under direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler. Zeiss began his career with the Tyler Paper in June 1961. He was named retail advertising manager in March 1965 and retired in June 1991. "I was fortunate to be able to work closely with Bill Zeiss during the entire number of years that he was one of the valuable members of the Tyler newspaper organization," said Calvin Clyde Jr., chairman of the board for the Tyler Paper. "As I recall, Bill had no prior newspaper employment experience, but quickly showed one of his strongest aptitudes when given a chance to learn and to make valuable use rapidly in his new knowledge. "Even with the heavy leadership role and personal workload that soon became his, Bill maintained his high regard for additional advanced education, and added an advanced college degree under an executive workload not many would have attempted," Clyde said. "His unexpected loss has taken a former colleague and an enduring friend." In 1975, he served as president of the Texas Newspaper Advertising Managers Association and became advertising director of the Tyler newspapers in 1976. In 1984, he was elected to the board of directors of T.B. Butler Publishing Co. Inc. Zeiss was born Oct. 8, 1926, in Brenham to the late William Owen and Gladys May Whitmore Zeiss. He was a graduate of Brenham High School and

Blinn Junior College. He attended Texas A&M University before going to East Texas State University, where he received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees. He was a veteran of the Army, having obtained the rank of sergeant. He moved to Tyler in 1957 as manager of the American National Insurance office and was a member of Glenwood United Methodist Church, where he was chairman of the board in 1977 and 2006. He served as a lay delegate for Glenwood UMC to the annual Methodist conference in 1979, 2005 and 2006. Zeiss was very proud of having been a 16 gallon blood donor. He had been a past officer in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (B.P.O.E.), past president of the Jasper Rotary Club and former member of the Breakfast Optimists Club in Tyler. Survivors include his wife of 59 1/2 years, Patsy Sue Ryall Zeiss, Tyler; son, William Adrian Zeiss, Dallas; daughters, Tanya Darlene Zeiss Atwood and Kimberly Hitt, both of Tyler; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Pallbearers will be Roy Atwood, Terry Hitt, Britton Atwood, Taylor Knight, Parker Cuvelier and Mike Paulsen. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway, Tyler. For more information and to share your condolences please visit www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall

VR

“ *Our Love and Deepest Sympathy in your loss of this Dear Person, Bill.*

Vergil & Vivian Rodgers - January 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Bill always took time to chat with me at every family gathering. He made me feel special. Teresa*

Teresa Humphreys - January 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Pat, Kim, Tanya and Bill,*

I'm thinking of you all and wishing that I could be in Tyler with you. I loved Bill and have such wonderful memories of him...big smiles, big hugs, kind words. I'm with you in spirit and send love from Dave, Elliot and Jeffrey, too.

Lu

Mary Lu Breshears - January 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *KIM.....MY HEART IS BROKEN FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. BILL WAS ONE OF THE MOST WONDERFUL MEN I HAVE EVER HAD THE HONOR OF KNOWING. PLEASE KNOW THAT MY PRAYERS ARE FOR YOU AND I LOVE YOU VERY MUCH....AND I AM SO, SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. GIVE PAT MY LOVE....*

DIANE

DIANE HITT - January 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ I remember Mr. Zeiss from one of the ski trips taken around 1981. I was one of the group of teenagers who went and we thought Mr. Zeiss was very cool for an adult.

My condolences to the family.

Sheila Austin - January 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Wanted you all to know you are in our thoughts and our prayers. Your Dad was a sweet man and I know he will be missed dearly. Let us know if we can help with anything.

Rick and Jill Kinsey - January 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ We're sorry for your loss and will keep you in our prayers. God bless you and your family.

Stan and Carol Kindig

Stan Kindig - January 07, 2008 at 12:00 AM